

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claim 39 is added. Claims 1-39 are pending in the application.

I. Objection to the Drawings

In the Office Action, at page 2, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). The Examiner stated that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specific in the claims, and that therefore the limitation "input signal is abnormal" first recited in claim 1 must be shown in the drawings or the features cancelled from the claims.

First, the Applicants respectfully submit that the drawings show the feature of "check[ing] whether the identified input signal is abnormal" is shown in the drawings. For example, in Fig. 2, reference numbers 231, 233, 235, 237 and 240 all refer to operations where the signal checking unit checks whether the signals are abnormal. Further, in Fig. 6, at operation 650, the signal checking unit checks whether the signal is abnormal. The Applicants respectfully submit that the use of the term "input signal is abnormal" is well understood by one skilled in the art, and that inclusion of a drawing of an input signal being abnormal is unnecessary. While 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) states that "[t]he drawing in a nonprovisional application must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims," it also goes on to state that "[h]owever, conventional features disclosed in the description and claims, where their detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, should be illustrated in the drawing in the form of a graphical drawing symbol or a labeled representation (e.g., a labeled rectangular box)." The "input signal [being] abnormal" is clearly labeled at reference number 231, 233, 235, 237, 240 and 650 in Figs. 2 and 6 of the present application. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the labeled representation of a check for whether the input signal is abnormal in Figs. 2 and 6 satisfies the requirement of § 1.83(a), and further respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's objection to the drawings.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action, at page 3, numbered paragraph 3, claims 1-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed. One skilled in the art would know what a normal input signal would look like, and therefore would be

able to determine abnormality of the signal, as disclosed by the present invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the Office Action, at page 4, numbered paragraph 5, claims 1, 6, 11 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,507,683 to Griesshaber et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed because Griesshaber does not discuss or suggest:

a signal changing unit that switches from the checked input signal to a next input signal to be checked so that the signal checking unit checks whether the next input signal is abnormal, after the signal checking unit checks whether the identified input signal is abnormal,

as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly in independent claims 6, 11 and 25.

As a non-limiting example, the present invention is a display device and method in which a signal identifying unit receives an input signal and identifies the type of the signal. A signal checking unit determines whether the input signal received is abnormal, and a signal changing unit switches from the input signal to a next input signal after it is checked whether the identified input signal is abnormal. The signal changing unit stops switching to a next signal if the next signal checked is normal.

Griesshaber discusses a camera status and diagnostics display system in which the status and diagnostic condition of a plurality of video cameras at a common monitor location are provided. Griesshaber discusses that "the status and diagnostic system of description herein, provides the continuous display of the setup status for each camera, as well as error data generated by the setup progress and/or any misregistration condition in a plurality of cameras, using a single, conveniently located monitor" (col. 3, lines 5-11). Griesshaber further discusses that "a multiplexed video signal from a respective camera in the camera system, is provided via an input line 68 extending to an input A of the A-B video switch 64" (col. 4, lines 22-24).

While Griesshaber does discuss that the diagnostic condition of the cameras are displayed, Griesshaber does not discuss or suggest that "a signal changing unit switches from the checked input signal to a next input signal to be checked so that the signal checking unit checks whether the next input signal is abnormal, after the signal checking unit checks whether the identified input signal is abnormal." In Griesshaber, no mention is made of a signal changing unit that switches from a checked input signal to a next signal so that the signal checking unit checks whether that next signal is abnormal. Griesshaber merely displays the status of the

camera setup, but does not discuss that there is a signal changing unit that switches from one input signal to another to check for abnormality of the next signal once abnormality of the initial signal has been checked. The Examiner alleges that item 106 in Fig. 2 is a signal changing unit that “switches from the checked input signal to a next input signal to be checked so that the signal checking unit checks whether the next input signal is abnormal, after the signal checking unit checks whether the identified input signal is abnormal,” and that “it is inherent that if the video signals are multiplexed then after checking one camera signal for errors, it must then check a next camera signal for errors.” There is no discussion in Griesshaber, however, that discusses that a signal changing unit switches input signals after initial input signals are checked for abnormality. Griesshaber makes no mention of a checking unit that first checks the abnormality of the signal, then a changing unit that switches from that checked input signal to a next input signal to be checked for abnormality. The mere act of processing a camera and identifying a problem associated with the camera (col. 7, lines 46-49) does not correspond to the feature in independent claim 1, and similarly in independent claims 6, 11 and 25, of a unit that switches from a signal checked for abnormality to a next signal to be checked for abnormality. Griesshaber does not discuss or suggest that the switching from one signal to the next to check for abnormality is made particularly after, and as a result of, the check of the first identified input signal.

Therefore, as Griesshaber does not discuss or suggest “a signal changing unit that switches from the checked input signal to a next input signal to be checked so that the signal checking unit checks whether the next input signal is abnormal, after the signal checking unit checks whether the identified input signal is abnormal,” as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly in independent claims 6, 11 and 25, claims 1, 6, 11 and 25 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. New Claims

New claim 39 depends from independent claim 25 and recites that the features of the present invention include “continuing displaying the input signals if the input signals are in a normal state; and stopping displaying the input signals if the input signals are in an abnormal state.” Nothing in the reference relied upon discusses or suggests such. It is submitted that new claim 39 distinguishes over the reference relied upon.

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 39 has been added. Claims 1-39 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

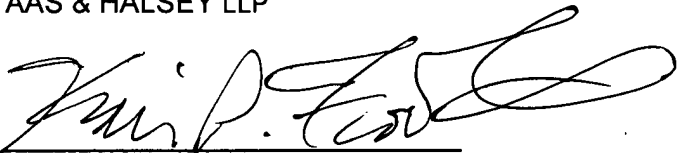
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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